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ACLB  
MEMORANDUM TO: Director, Political Affairs Division  
FROM: Emigre Relations Advisor  
SUBJECT: Talk with Professor von Mende  
#368 *Gerhard*

I had a long talk with Professor von Mende in Duesseldorf on September 22, in which he emphasized the following points:

1. Von Mende is greatly disturbed over implications of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Bonn Government and Moscow. The Soviets will have a legal status in West Germany and will be able to work in close coordination with the Committee for Return to the Homeland. The Soviets will be in a position to conduct welfare and cultural work openly among the emigres.
2. Von Mende is concerned over the influences which the officials of the Soviet Embassy at Bonn can have on neutralist opinion in Germany.
3. Von Mende is disturbed over the general lack of understanding among Bonn officials of the important role played by the emigration.
4. Von Mende's personal opinion is that the American Committee and RFE must remain for a long time to come.
5. There is a need for Americans to constantly stress in talks with German officials the vital role played by the emigration.
6. Von Mende personally desires to work in closer contact with the American Committee.
7. The Germans will not effect enforced repatriation, which would violate their Constitution and the law protecting homeless foreigners passed on April 25, 1951.
8. Von Mende hopes that his office and the Bonn Foreign Office will work in closer liaison than in the past. In this connection, I believe Von Mende is endeavoring to strengthen his position in the Bonn structure.

IP:eg

Isaac Patch, Jr.

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